

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
BGS RCE

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office  
PATENT

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
Filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/382,438
Filing Date	08/25/1999
First Named Inventor	GARDNER et al.
Group Art Unit	2665
Examiner Name	D.J. RYMAN
Customer Number	23696
Attorney Docket Number	990482

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which estimated RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 which the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.117)  
☐ One Month (\$110.00) ☐ Two Months (\$410.00) ☐ Three Months (\$930.00)
- iii. ☐ Other

CLAIMS	(a) Number Remaining After Amendment	(b) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(c) Extra Claims	Large Entity Fee	Fee Paid
Total*	12	20	0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
Independent**	3	3	0	x \$84 =	\$0.00

\*If the number in column a is less than 20, enter 0 in column c.

\*\*If the number in column a is less than 3, enter 0 in column c.

TOTAL FEE \$0.00

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Date	01/23/2003	Signature	<i>Sandra L. Godsey</i> Sandra L. Godsey, Reg. No. 42,589 (858) 651-4517
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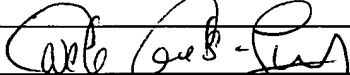
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<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:			
Name (Print Type)	Carola Emelius-Swartz		
Signature		Date	01/23/2003

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